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Application No: 10/518,698
Amendment A
Reply to Office Action Dated 12/28/2007

MAR 05 2008

Attorney Docket No: 3926.125

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces any earlier listing:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A particle for producing a three-dimensional object by means of layer-building processes, comprising

- a core of at least a first material,
 - a first coating on the core with a second material, which is polar, and
 - a second coating on the first coating,
- wherein the thickness of the first coating corresponds to 0.1 to 10% of a mean particle radius, and

wherein the second coating is formed from surfactant, the thickness of which corresponds to a monolayer of the surfactant, and

wherein a uniformly non-polar outer surface of the particle is formed.

8. (Previously Presented) The particle as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first coating and the second coating are soluble in water or an aqueous solution but the core is not.

9. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a three-dimensional object, including the following steps:

- applying a layer of particles to a target surface,
- irradiating a selected part of the layer, corresponding to a cross-section of the object, with an energy beam, so that the particles are joined in the selected part,
- repeating the application and irradiation steps for a plurality of layers, so that the joined parts of the adjacent layers are joined together in order to form the object,

{WP471155;1}

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wherein

- the particles according to claim 7 are applied.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a three-dimensional object, including the following steps:

- applying a layer of particles to a target surface,
- printing a liquid in which at least parts of the particles are soluble onto a selected part of the layer, corresponding to a cross-section of the object, so that the particles are joined in the selected part,
- repeating the application and printing steps to form a plurality of layers, so that the joined parts of the adjacent layers are joined together in order to form the object,

wherein

- the particles according to claim 7 are applied.

12-14. (Cancelled)

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